

Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00

ACDE-00 /031 W

----- 075981

P R 101810Z OCT 74

FM USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2333

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T SALT TWO GENEVA 0099

EXDIS/SALT

DEPARTMENT PLASE ALSO PASS DOD

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: XGDSI

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON PRIVATE MEETING, OCTOBER 10

(SALT TWO - 460)

1. HAD TWO HOURS AND FORTY-FIVE MINUTES WITH SEMENOV IN PRIVATE MEETING TODAY WHICH HE HAD REQUESTED. HIS MAJOR EMPHASIS WAS ON FBS, IN WHICH HE SEEMED TO GO FURTHER THAN HE HAS IN THE PAST ON ITS BEING RESOLVED "IN PRINCIPLE" IN 1985 AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS. HE REPEATED THAT "FIRST OF ALL" WAS NECESSITY OF AGREEMENT ON NO NEW NUCLEAR BASES. IN RESOLVING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE QUESTION, HE SAID THAT THE SOVDEL WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WAS PREPARED "TO CONSIDER VARIANTS" FOR WITHDRAWAL AT ONCE OR IN STAGES, IMPLIEDLY IN A TEN-YEAR TIME FRAME. HE AGAIN COMPLAINED HEAVILY AT MY UNWILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS QUESTION WITH HIM, ALTHOUGH I REPEATED OUR OLD ARGUTENTS ON BALANCE NOT NECESSARILY IN OUR FAVOR AND EFFECTS UPON ALLIANCES AND THUS NONCIRCUM-VENTION WAS ANSWER. HE SAID THAT HOLY LOCH AND ROTA WERE NOT RELATED TO OUR ALLIANCE COMMITMENTS AND IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO DEAL ON OTHER ASPECTS IN CONSULTATION WITH OUR ALLIES.

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2. HE THEN ASKED WHETHER WE AGREED TO THEIR PROPOSITION ON FOR-

BIDDING LAUNCHERS ON SEABEDS, ETC., TO WHICH I REPLIED THAT, AS HE KNEW, WE HAD MADE SIMILAR PROPOSAL IN THE PAST AND WHILE I KNEW OF NO CHANGE OF OUR VIEWS, THIS WAS ONE OF PERIPHERAL ISSUES WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER CORE ISSUES HAD BEEN AGREED. HE ALSO ASKED ABOUT THEIR PROPOSAL ON BANNING ICBMS ON AIRBORNE PLATFORMS, TO WHICH I SAID THAT, AGAIN, THIS WAS ONE AMONG A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF PERIPHERAL ISSUES WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER AGREEMENT ON CENTRAL ISSUES.

3. IN REPLY TO HIS QUESTION AS TO RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE LIMITATIONS AND THEIR RELATION TO MIRV LIMITATIONS, I SAID THAT IN STRIKING OVERALL BALANCE, IT WAS SUM OF ALL THREE FACTORS -- THAT IS, AGGREGATE NUMBERS, THROW-WEIGHT LIMITS, AND LIMITS ON MIRVS. WITH RESPECT TO MIRV LIMITATIONS, EXPLAINED IMPORTANCE OF TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THROW-WEIGHT AND RV NUMBERS IN ESTABLISHING QUANTITATIVE LIMITATIONS ON MIRVED LAUNCHERS. HE SHOULD NOT COUNT "RABBITS AND HORSES" AS IF THEY WERE EQUAL. HE AGAIN RETURNED TO "SPECIAL MEASURES" ON VERIFICATION OF MIRV LIMITATIONS, SAYING THAT HIS EXPERTS HAD LOOKED AT THE PROBLEM AND DID NOT UNDERSTAND HOW IT COULD BE RESOLVED. IN RESPONSE TO HIS URGING FOR TALKS BETWEEN EXPERTS ON SUBJECT, I SAID IT WOULD BE PREMATURE UNTIL THEY WERE GIVEN GUIDANCE ON WHAT LIMITATIONS WERE TO BE VERIFIED. I ALSO SAID THAT I RECOGNIZED THAT THIS WAS SOMEWHAT A CHICKEN-AND-EGG PROPOSITION; THAT IN CONSIDERING THE LIMITATIONS TO BE ADOPTED THE ABILITY TO VERIFY WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED.

4. AT CLOSE OF MEETING I SUGGESTED THAT DELEGATIONS RECESS "IN PLACE" BEGINNING OCTOBER 18 FOR PERIOD OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT TO MOSCOW. HE PROMISED TO GIVE ME A REPLY. JOHNSON

SECRET

NNN

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